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AMENDMENTS

In the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A recreational vehicle (REV) comprising:
a frame having a longitudinal axis and a lateral axis, the lateral axis intersecting the longitudinal axis at a center of gravity of the REV;
first and second drive wheels attached to the frame along the lateral axis;
a third and fourth wheels attached to the frame along the longitudinal axis, the wheels arranged in a diamond shape;
a first motor and a second motor, connected to the first and second drive wheels respectively, the first motor and the second motor able to be engaged in the same and in opposite directions; and
a joystick to control the first and second drive wheels, the joystick ~~providing~~ configured to respond to a twisting motion to permit by causing the REV to spin about its axis.
2. (Canceled)
3. (Previously Presented) The REV of claim 1, further comprising: a battery to provide power to the first motor and the second motor.
4. (Original) The REV of claim 3, further comprising: a second battery to provide power to signals, displays, and entertainment electronics within the REV.
5. (Original) The REV of claim 1, further comprising: a joystick to control the REV.
6. (Original) The REV of claim 5, wherein the joystick is further for operator selection of vehicle speed, vehicle turn radius and vehicle turn angular velocity, whereby the REV may move in a straight line, in a turn, or spin in place.
7. (Original) The REV of claim 6, wherein the joystick is further to control braking.
8. (Original) The REV of claim 5, further comprising: a drive mode selector to select a drive mode, the drive modes including forward and reverse.

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9. (Original) The REV of claim 8, wherein the drive modes further include Park, the Park mode comprising applying an engine brake to ensure that the REV remains stationary.

10. (Original) The REV of claim 5, further comprising: a moveable mount for the joystick, the moveable mount enabling the joystick to be positioned properly for drivers of various size and at various seating locations.

11. (Original) The REV of claim 1, further comprising: a dashboard including a joystick and a drive mode selector.

12. (Original) The REV of claim 1, further comprising: a smart card reader to receive a smart card, the smart card to act as an activating key to make the REV functional.

13. (Original) The REV of claim 12, wherein the smart card stores a user profile, the user profile specifying abilities of the REV.

14. (Original) The REV of claim 13, wherein the user profile may comprise one or more of the following: a maximum range, a maximum speed, a maximum acceleration, a maximum weight limit.

15. (Original) The REV of claim 1, further comprising: a vehicle control computer to enable various functions of the REV.

16. (Original) The REV of claim 15, wherein the vehicle control computer comprises: an equipment profile to limit the REV functionality depending on a current condition of the REV.

17. (Original) The REV of claim 15, wherein the vehicle control computer further comprises: automatic ride procedures to enable the REV to ride in a self-guided mode, without requiring user input through the joystick.

18. (Withdrawn) A recreational vehicle comprising:

a drive mode controller to select from among: forward motion and reverse motion; and

a joystick to control motion of the recreational vehicle, wherein the joystick provides for

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operator selection of vehicle speed, vehicle turn radius and vehicle turn angular velocity, whereby the vehicle may move in a straight line, in a turn, or spin in place.

19. (Withdrawn) The recreational vehicle of claim 18, further comprising:

a smart card reader to receive a smart card for activating the recreational vehicle.

20. (Withdrawn) The recreational vehicle of claim 19, wherein the smart card includes a user profile, the user profile defining operational characteristics of the recreational vehicle.

21. (Previously Presented) A recreational vehicle comprising:

a chassis frame;

first and second drive wheels attached to the frame, each of the drive wheels being capable of powered in being a clockwise or anticlockwise direction;

first and second stability wheels attached to the frame to provide stability to the frame, the first and second drive wheels and the first and second stability wheels together forming a diamond shape;

a drive motor for independently controlling a torque vector of each of the drive wheels, the drive motor able to power the drive wheels in the same and in opposite directions, enabling forward motion, turns, and spinning in place;

a battery to power the drive motor; and

a drive control system capable of taking a set of command signal inputs and applying transfer functions to them to produce the motion and braking function applied to each of the drive wheels;

a joystick to control the drive wheels, the joystick ~~providing~~ configured to respond to a twisting motion to permit by causing the REV to spin in place.

22. (Original) The recreational vehicle of claim 21, wherein the set of command signal inputs are received from a joystick controller.

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21. (Previously Presented) A recreational vehicle (REV) comprising:

a frame having a longitudinal axis and a lateral axis, the lateral axis intersecting the longitudinal axis at a center of gravity of the REV;

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drive wheels attached to the frame along the lateral axis;

stability wheels attached to the frame along the longitudinal axis, the drive wheels and the stability wheels arranged in a substantially diamond shape;

a motor coupled to the drive wheels, the motor able to engage the drive wheels in the same and opposite directions, to enable the REV to spin about its axis;

an electronic control system including:

a smartcard reader to receive a smartcard from a user, the smartcard enabling usage-based billing.

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23. (New) The recreational vehicle of claim 1, further comprising a substantially rigid body coupled with the frame and configured to protect the vehicle and a rider.